

Himepion cyathicornis (Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Pselaphinae), a New Genus and Species of the Somatipionina from Shikoku, Japan

Shûhei NOMURA

Department of Zoology, National Science Museum,
3–23–1 Hyakunin-chô, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo, 169–0073 Japan
E-mail: nomura@kahaku.go.jp

and

Peter HLAVÁČ

Na doline 14, SK–040 14, Košice, Slovakia
E-mail: hlavac@shpgroup.net

Abstract A new somatipionine pselaphid beetle, *Himepion cyathicornis* gen. et sp. nov. is described from Shikoku, Japan. The genus is defined in comparison with the related genera *Hamotus* and *Somatipion*.

Key words: Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Pselaphinae, Tyrini, *Himepion* gen. nov., Japan, taxonomy.

Introduction

The pselaphine subtribe Somatipionina JEANNEL was recently redefined by CHANDLER (2001). It is clearly separated from the allied subtribe Tyrina by having the small and short third segment of the maxillary palpus. From Japan, the genus *Saltisedes* KUBOTA is known as a member of this subtribe. The authors found a new species from Shikoku and recognized it as belonging to a new genus, which will be described herein.

Genus *Himepion* nov.

Type species: *Himepion cyathicornis* sp. nov.

Etymology. This new name is formed from the Japanese word “hime” and a part of the related genus name, *Somatipion*. “Hime” means a young girl or a princess, which is also associated with Ehime Prefecture where all the type specimens were collected. The sense of the Greek adjective “-pion” is fat or chubby. The gender of the new genus name is feminine.

Description. Body (Fig. 1) middle-sized and robust, color reddish-brown and

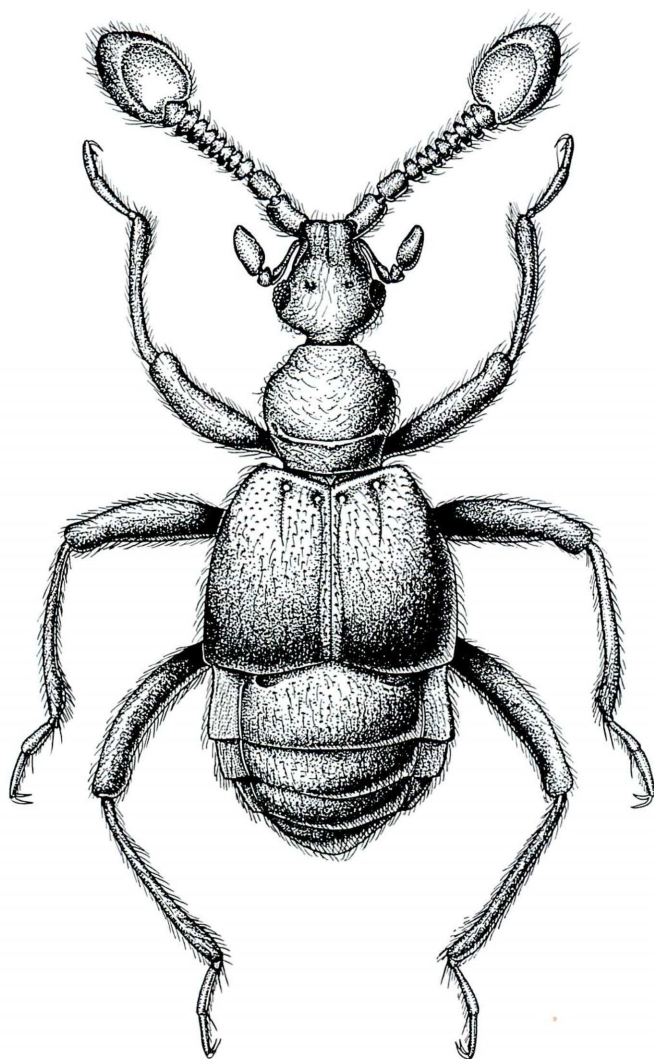


Fig. 1. *Himepion cyathicornis* gen. et sp. nov., male habitus.

shining, maxillary palpi lighter.

Head thick, narrowed anteriorly, with a short longitudinal sulcus between antennal bases and a pair of small and round dorsal tentorial pits. Eyes small and convex. Maxillary palpi (Fig. 2 C, D) short and thick; 1st segment very short; 2nd long and elongate, strongly swollen in apical part; 3rd short and nearly triangular; 4th the largest, about twice as long as wide, ovoid, with a long and narrow elliptical excavation on inner side, a few setae near apex and short and slender palpal spine at apical end of the excavation. Antennae (Fig. 2 A, B) short and thick; 6th to 10th segments transverse

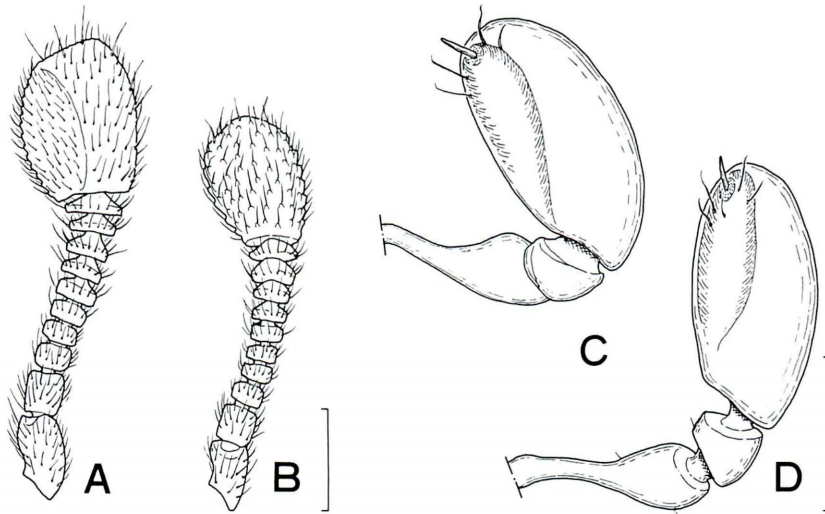


Fig. 2. Antennae and maxillary palpi of *Himepion cyathicornis* gen. et sp. nov.; A, B, right antenna in dorsal view; C, D, right maxillary palpus in dorsal view. A, C, male; B, D, female. Scale for A, B: 0.2 mm; scale for C, D: 0.1 mm.

and strongly narrowed distad; 11th predominantly large. Pronotum subglobose, with a pair of lateral foveae and a transverse groove connecting the lateral foveae. Legs long and slender, tibiae each weakly incurved in apical part. Abdomen about as wide as elytra, narrowed posteriorly; 4th tergite the largest; 4th to 6th paratergites each large, flat and well demarcated. Male genitalia (Fig. 3) comprising paired and elongate parameres, ovoid median lobe and well sclerotized endophallus. Female genital segments (Fig. 4) composed of 8th abdominal segment (Fig. 4 A, B) and very weakly sclerotized genital plate.

Remarks. This new genus is most closely allied to *Hamotus* distributed in the Neotropical Region in the middle-sized and weakly narrowed body and the subglobose pronotum with a transverse groove. However, it is distinct within the subtribe by having the third to tenth antennal segments each transverse and strongly narrowed distad. According to JEANNEL (1962) and CHANDLER (1973), the median lobe of the male genitalia of *Hamotus* is tubular and ventrally curved. On the other hand, that of *Himepion* is bulbous in basal part and never curved.

This genus is also similar to the Australian genus *Somatipion* in the antennal and genital structures. It differs in the short and normal head and the non-carinated fourth to seventh abdominal tergites.

Himepion cyathicornis sp. nov.

[Japanese name: Ehime-arizukamushi]

(Figs. 1–4)

Etymology. The specific name is a combination of Latin nouns, “cyathus” meaning a ladle and “cornis”, antenna, which is associated with the shape of the male antenna.

Holotype male, Odamiyama, Ehime Pref., 19–X–1992, E. YAMAMOTO leg. (NSMT).

Paratypes: 2 females, Keikoku, 800 m alt., Odamiyama, Ehime Pref., 6–V–1995, M. SAKAI leg. (NSMT, CPH).

Male (Fig. 1). Body length 1.94 mm, width 0.75 mm. Head slightly wider than long; frons strongly convex; vertex gently convex, sparsely covered with minute punctures. Eyes reniform in lateral view, each composed of about 40 facets. Antennae (Fig. 2 A) 0.88 mm in length; 1st segment thick and tubular; 2nd narrower than 1st, slightly longer than wide, subcylindrical; 3rd to 10th each short, wider than long; 11th the largest, 1.4 times as long as wide, ovoid, with a large and elliptical concavity on inner side, minutely serrate on margin of the concavity; relative length (width) of each segment from base to apex:— 1.0 (0.7): 0.8 (0.6); 0.4 (0.5); 0.3 (0.5); 0.3 (0.5): 0.3 (0.6); 0.3 (0.6); 0.4 (0.7): 0.4 (0.8): 0.4 (0.9): 2.5 (1.8).

Pronotum about as long as head, convex on dorsal surface, sparsely covered with very minute punctures. Elytra wider than long, weakly broadened posteriad, gently convex, sparsely covered with coarse punctures on dorsal surface; each elytron with two basal foveae, adsutural sulcus running from inner basal fovea to the posterior end, and a short lateral longitudinal sulcus.

Abdomen sparsely covered with minute punctures on dorsal surface; 4th segment the largest, 3 times as wide as long, with a deep and narrow basal groove; 5th shorter than 4th; 6th slightly shorter than 5th; 7th slightly longer than 5th, nearly trapezoidal; 8th about as long as 6th, semicircular, with a pair of large and round lateral foveae.

Male genitalia (Fig. 3) weakly sclerotized; parameres paired and symmetrical, each elongate and weakly narrowed distad; median lobe bulbous in basal part, with a large and elliptical membranous part, apical part asymmetrical, curved ventrally and sharpened rightwards, with large and oblique apical orifice; endophallus composed of two elongate spines both curved leftwards; right spine slender in apical part, broad and lamellar in basal part; left spine bifurcate in apical part, broadened in basal part.

Female. Body length 1.85–1.88 mm, width 0.73 mm. Similar to male, but differs in the following characters: Antennae (Fig. 2 B) shorter than in male, each 0.73–0.81 mm in length; 11th segment smaller than in male, ovoid and truncate at base, without concavity; 8th abdominal tergite (Fig. 4 A) with a median longitudinal carina; genital plate (Fig. 4 C) almost membranous, with a pair of small and triangular sclerites in posteroventral part.

Distribution. Japan (Shikoku).

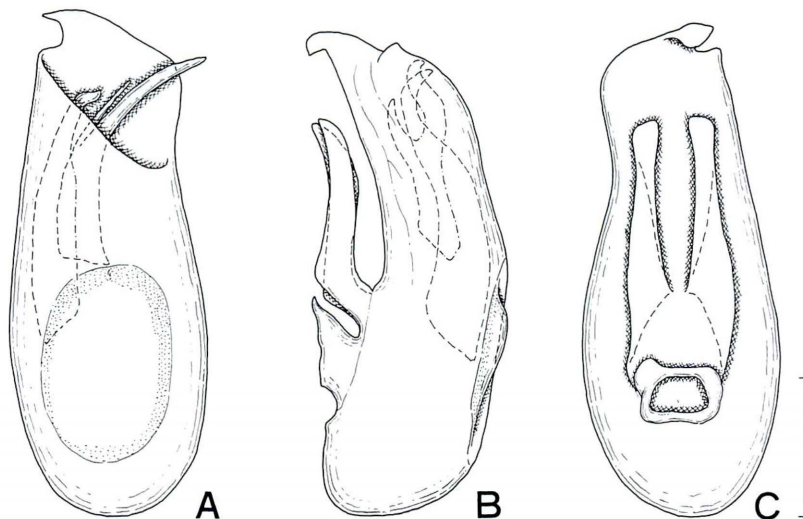


Fig. 3. Male genitalia of *Himepion cyathicornis* gen. et sp. nov.; A, dorsal view; B, lateral view; C, ventral view. Scale: 0.1 mm.

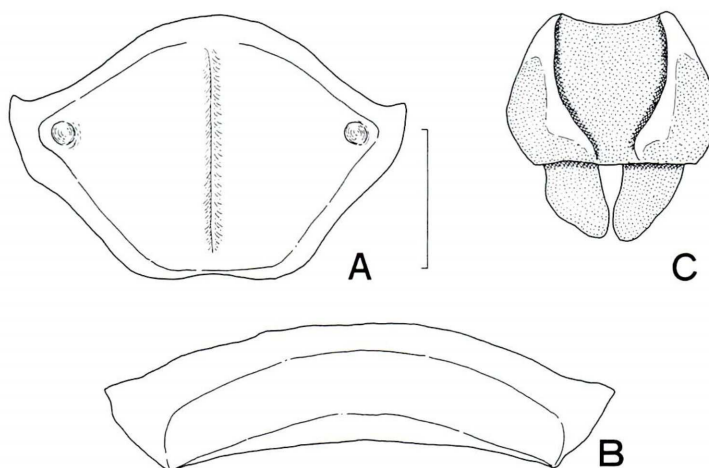


Fig. 4. Female genitalia of *Himepion cyathicornis* gen. et sp. nov.; A, 8th abdominal tergite; B, 8th sternite; C, genital plate. Scale: 0.1 mm.

Remarks. This new species is very characteristic in having the ladle-like antenna in the male. This species is easily distinguished even in the female because no similar species has been known from Japan.

The holotype of this species is labelled to have been collected from a tree hole on a decayed wood of *Fagus* tree.

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要 約

野村周平・Peter HLAVÁČ：四国産セダカアリヅカムシ亜族（和名新称）の新属新種 *Himepion cyathicornis*（コウチュウ目ハネカクシ科アリヅカムシ亜科）。——日本から2属目となる *Somatipionina* セダカアリヅカムシ亜族（和名新称）の新属 *Himepion* を、1新種 *H. cyathicornis* エヒメアリヅカムシに基づいて記載した。本種は現在、愛媛県のみから発見されている。本属は中南米に分布する *Hamotus* 属にもっともよく似ているが、触角第3~10節が横長であり、第6~10節がそれぞれ先端に向かって急激に細まる点で、明らかに区別できる。オーストラリア産の *Somatipion* 属にも似ているが、頭部が短くて単純であること、腹部第4~7節に隆起条を持たないことで区別される。

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